

House File 615 - Reprinted

HOUSE FILE 615
BY COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

(SUCCESSOR TO HF 391)

(As Amended and Passed by the House March 21, 2023)

A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to private instruction, including the issuance
2 of diplomas or credentials to students who complete private
3 instruction and the authority of parents, guardians, and
4 legal custodians to execute documents to verify student
5 information, and including effective date and applicability
6 provisions.
7 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. NEW SECTION. **299A.13 Diplomas and credentials.**

2 1. A diploma or credential issued by a person who
3 administers a program of secondary education under competent
4 private instruction or independent private instruction pursuant
5 to this chapter shall be deemed sufficient to demonstrate for
6 all purposes that the recipient has completed the program of
7 secondary education and has attained the equivalent of a high
8 school diploma.

9 2. The state, a political subdivision of the state, a
10 community college, an institution of higher education under
11 the control of the state board of regents, or an accredited
12 private institution as defined in section 261.9, shall not
13 discriminate against any individual based on the source of the
14 individual's diploma or credential and shall treat a diploma
15 or credential awarded for completion of a program of secondary
16 education under competent private instruction or independent
17 private instruction the same as a high school diploma awarded
18 by a school district or accredited nonpublic school.

19 Sec. 2. NEW SECTION. **299A.14 Verification of enrollment.**

20 The parent, guardian, or legal custodian of a child of
21 compulsory attendance age shall have the authority to execute
22 any document required by law to verify any of the following:

23 1. The placement of a child under competent private
24 instruction or independent private instruction.

25 2. The child's full-time or part-time status in competent
26 private instruction or independent private instruction.

27 3. The grades the child has obtained in competent private
28 instruction or independent private instruction.

29 4. Any other required educational information.

30 Sec. 3. **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This Act, being deemed of immediate
31 importance, takes effect upon enactment.

32 Sec. 4. **APPLICABILITY.** The following applies to any
33 diplomas or credentials issued before, on, or after the
34 effective date of this Act:

35 The section of this Act enacting section 299A.13.